



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Steve Beshear, Governor

Leonard K. Peters, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kenya Stump
502-564-7192
Kenya.stump@ky.gov

Federal Energy Department Joins State Renewable Efforts *Fort Campbell Receives Funding for Renewable Energy*

Frankfort, Ky. (Oct. 2, 2014) – The U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) is joining a Kentucky collaborative to build a 5-megawatt solar photovoltaic panel system at Fort Campbell. In 2012 the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet, the Department of Defense at Fort. Campbell and Pennyriple Rural Electric Cooperative joined to develop a plan that would build the largest solar array in Kentucky. Since forming, the collaborative has amassed more than \$10 million to support the project. USDOE will contribute an additional \$800,000 to the project that will help reduce carbon emissions while strengthening America's economic, energy and environmental security.

"This project demonstrates how state agencies, the federal government and private businesses can come together to develop renewable energy in Kentucky and diversify our electricity generation mix while improving our environment," said Energy and Environment Cabinet Secretary Len Peters.

Fort Campbell, as well as all federal agencies, are working toward a goal of having 20 percent of their electricity needs come from renewable energy sources by 2020, as directed in a December 2013 presidential memorandum.

The project will consist of more than 16,000 solar modules and cover approximately 20 acres on Fort Campbell. Annually, the solar array is expected to produce more than 6,500 MWh of electricity.

"This is an excellent opportunity for the Army to leverage both a utility energy services contract and a power purchase agreement, to deliver a system that will generate enough energy to power 463 homes, while avoiding 4.7 million tons per year of CO2 emissions," said Fort Campbell Energy Manager James R. McCoy, Jr.

Detailed planning began in 2013 and Fort Campbell expects to complete the project by the end of 2015. The Fort Campbell solar project will be located on an abandoned landfill, which will allow the Army to apply lessons learned to other large-scale, landfill-based solar projects that could benefit sites in Kentucky as well as nationwide.

###